

as the Chief, Office for Congressional Affairs at the Defense Intelligence Agency. In her current duties, she is responsible for all DIA interaction with the U.S. Congress and serves as the senior advisor on legislative matters to the Director and General Defense Intelligence Program Manager.

Ms. Turner is an alumnus of the Armed Forces Staff College, the Council for Excellence in Government Fellow Program and the DCI's Intelligence Fellows Program. Ms. Turner has held intelligence and management positions of increasing responsibility and importance within DIA. She began her professional career in DIA in 1981 as an analyst of Soviet Strategic Forces in the Research Directorate, joined the Senior Executive Service in 1990, culminating in her current position as the Director for Congressional Affairs, where she serves as the senior advisor on legislative matters to the Director of DIA and General Defense Intelligence Program Manager. During her 24 year career at DIA, Ms. Turner has been awarded the DIA Director's Award for Exceptional Civilian Service and the Presidential Rank of Meritorious Executive.

Fortunately for the Congress, Ms. Turner is not going far. She has accepted the position of Deputy Director, Legislative Affairs to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence where she will serve as a trusted and valuable congressional advisor to Ambassador Negroponte.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Turner has already enjoyed a long and luminous career in intelligence, and as she moves on to the DNI staff, I hope all my colleagues will recognize the extraordinary contributions Ms. Kathleen Turner has made to our National Security as a life-long professional intelligence officer. Finally, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our confidence in her continued ability and willingness to serve the Nation . . . Ms. Turner is a true national asset in the intelligence business.

HONORING THE FELICIAN SISTERS ON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the Felician Sisters of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Province, as they celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Felix of Cantalice.

On November 21, 1855, in Warsaw, Poland, Blessed Mary Angela, who was formerly Sophia Truszkowska, and her cousin Clothilde Ciechanowska, solemnly dedicated themselves to do the will of Jesus Christ in all things. Hereafter, the Felician Sisters were dedicated to a ministry of healing and service, based on Mary Angela's mission of "responding to the needs of the times."

Currently, the Felician Sisters number 1,966 members who share the charisma of their foundress, Blessed Mary Angela, in 11 countries on the continents of Africa, Europe, North and South America. In my hometown of Livonia, alone, the Felician Sisters have founded St. Mary-Mercy Hospital, Madonna University, Ladywood High School, and Angela Hospice.

St. Mary-Mercy Hospital was founded by the Felician Sisters in 1959. The Hospital has grown in its commitment to the community and in excellence in clinical care and services. This year St. Mary-Mercy Hospital placed in the top five percent nationally for clinical excellence, and in the top two percent nationally for patient safety. These awards are well deserved recognition for the Felician Sisters, physicians, nurses and support staff of the hospital.

Madonna University was founded by the Felician Sisters in 1937 and is one of the largest Catholic Franciscan independent universities in the country. Through undergraduate, graduate, and continuing professional study, Madonna University provides men and women with the opportunities for intellectual, spiritual and personal growth.

Ladywood High School is sponsored by the Felician Sisters and also follows the Franciscan tradition. The school aims to educate young women in the attainment of Catholic values, human potential, and the ability to put faith and knowledge into fruitful action.

Angela Hospice, founded in 1985, has been providing care for those of every age and stage of life that may need it. Angela provides care to individuals at home or in a care facility in Livonia, as well as support and counseling for family members. Recently, Angela Hospice launched the "Angela House Call" program to provide home physician visits for the elderly—another example of the commitment by the Felician Sisters to our community.

Mr. Speaker, in the spirit of Mary Angela I ask my colleagues to join me in commending and applauding the 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Felician Sisters and praise their ministry of healing and service, and their efforts to maintain the utmost respect for every human life.

IN HONOR OF ALL UNITED STATES VETERANS AND HOLLY LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OF WESTLAKE, OHIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of all veterans of the 10th Congressional District of Ohio—for their service, bravery and dedication on behalf of our country. Most significantly, we stand in tribute and remembrance of those veterans who have made the ultimate sacrifice when they answered the call to duty.

I also stand in honor and recognition of the children and educators of Holly Lane Elementary School. By allowing our students the opportunity to meet and know our veterans, we are presenting them living examples of real heroes. We are giving them a true understanding of the meaning of the words conviction, courage and selflessness. We are offering them the understanding of a living lesson that speaks to our American history and to the preservation of our liberty—the brave men and women who have endured great hardship and sacrifice in order to secure freedom for us all.

Every veteran that stands before us today at Holly Lane Elementary School represents the heart and soul of America and reminds us of

our quest for justice and peace here at home, and the struggle of those who seek justice and peace around the world. The staff and students of Holly Lane Elementary School reflect the gratitude and respect for our men and women in the armed forces, sentiments that are shared by all Americans. The students of Holly Lane Elementary School also reflect a vision of hope for our future.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor, tribute and gratitude to the men and women of our armed forces, past and present. They reflect the quest and struggle for human rights and freedom from oppression, basic human elements that unify us all. Let us forever remember and honor their honorable service, great sacrifice and unwavering sense of commitment to the preservation of our American democracy.

HONORING EMPLOYERS OF NA- TIONAL GUARDSMEN AND RE- SERVISTS

HON. GIL GUTKNECHT

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, I share my strong support for H. Res. 302, honoring the employers of National Guardsmen and Reservists who have been called to active duty.

Today, 1.3 million Americans serve in the Guard and Reserve, representing nearly half of our total military force.

Since Sept. 11, 2001, Minnesota National Guard members have served on active duty supporting operations in more than 30 countries around the world. This fall, 2,600 Guard members from the 34th Infantry Division's 1st Brigade Combat Team were activated for service in Iraq.

Their 18-month mission will take them away from family and friends, their careers and their everyday lives. They will miss birthdays and anniversaries, holidays and school plays, a baby's first steps and home-cooked meals. However, these soldiers could not perform their mission without the support of their civilian employers.

In 1972, President Nixon established the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). In Minnesota, there are 140 ESGR volunteers who promote the value of Guard and Reserve employees.

Last year, the State of Minnesota received the Defense Secretary's Employer Support Freedom Award for its programs supporting activated service members. The State, for example, makes up the difference between a reservist's active-duty pay and his or her State salary.

The Minnesota Timberwolves organization are another outstanding example of a business that supports the Guard and Reserve. In 2004, the Timberwolves received the ESGR's "Outstanding Corporate Citizen Award." This year, the Timberwolves are hosting a "Salute to the Armed Forces" event at the Target Center on Nov. 9. The team donated more than 1,200 tickets for the month of November so military personnel can attend a game.

Support of the Guard and Reserve also takes place at the local level. This year, the New Ulm Police Department and Immanuel St.

Joseph Hospital in Mankato, received "Above and Beyond" awards for their ongoing support of reserve employees. More than 475 Minnesota employers were nominated for this national award. Only 23 received this prestigious award.

Mr. Speaker, one of America's great strengths is the unselfish courage of the citizen who steps forward, puts on the uniform and stands ready to face danger. It is that quality, more than any other, which has kept us free for more than 200 years.

We must commend the tens of thousands of American businesses who willingly employ members of the National Guard and Reserve. It is this essential alliance and shared sacrifice that keeps America and much of the world free.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE MAE CROMARTIE

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a guiding light in Columbia, South Carolina that will be deeply missed. Charlie Mae Mays Harrison Cromartie passed away on Sunday, November 6, 2005, but her legacy will remain with us forever.

Charlie Mae Cromartie was born in Greenwood County, South Carolina to John Henry and Myrtle Harrison Mays. She was the niece of renowned educator, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays. She was educated at Bettis Academy and earned her RN degree with a concentration in psychiatric nursing from South Carolina State Hospital and the Columbia Hospital School of Nursing. She served as Head Evening Nurse at the Columbia Hospital School from 1961 to 1970, and was the owner and manager of Cromartie Enterprises from 1977 to 1996.

In addition to her very successful career, Mrs. Cromartie was also active in her community and church. She was the Mother of the Church at Bishops' Memorial A.M.E. Church, where she had been a member for more than 50 years. Mrs. Cromartie had served as the church Treasurer for more than 40 years and was a member of the Trustee Board, Missionary Society, and the Building Fund.

In the community, Mrs. Cromartie served as a poll manager in Ward 9 at Allen-Benedict Court for many years. She had served as PTA President at Waverly Elementary, Carver Elementary, W.A. Perry Middle and C.A. Johnson High schools. She was also a school advocate for the Richland County Board of Education. Her other memberships included the March of Dimes, the League of Women Voters, and she was Past Illustrious Commandress of Daughters of Isis, Cairo Temple #125.

Mrs. Cromartie had been recognized for her community work with a key to the City of Columbia and induction into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame in 2003. In 1987, Columbia Mayor Patton Adams chose Mrs. Cromartie as one of several Columbians to be sketched for a picture presented to Pope John Paul II during his visit to Columbia that now hangs in the Vatican.

Mrs. Cromartie was married to E. W. Cromartie, Sr. for 43 years. The couple has two children, E. W. Cromartie, III and Ernestine Cromartie Moody, and four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of a devoted wife, mother, Christian and community activist. Charlie Mae Cromartie made a lasting impression on the City of Columbia and all those who had the pleasure of knowing her.

SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO FRED V. MUNOZ AND HIS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENTS

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my condolences to the Munoz family of Delta, Colorado, who recently experienced a tragic loss with the death of Fred V. Munoz. He passed away on October 7th at the age of 63.

Though Fred spent his childhood and was educated in California, he was not only a valued citizen of my district, but a dear friend as well. He served in the Army during the Vietnam War, and I honor him for his service. Furthermore, he was an exceptional leader in the Hispanic community, and served as president of the Orange County Trial Lawyers Association. His extraordinary achievements as a lawyer also included sitting as a member of the California Bar Association and serving on the board of the Hispanic Bar Association.

I grew to know Fred over the last year and he never hesitated to offer his support and assistance to myself and others. He had said he would always be ready to step up and do what he could in the years ahead, and though he may no longer be with us in physical presence, I have no doubt he will keep his word and join us in spirit.

Fred was certainly an inspiration to me and to everyone who had the opportunity to meet him, and I am grateful for the short amount of time I was able to spend with him. I know my life and the lives of those he knew and loved were enriched by his presence, and he will surely be missed.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HARRY HANCOCK

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a very special member of the Birmingham community, Harry Hancock.

Harry Hancock has provided compassionate and caring service as the District Manager of the Birmingham Downtown Social Security office for many years. For over a quarter century, Harry has given of his time to ensure that his fellow Americans are treated fairly in their attempts to access Social Security benefits. However, Harry's time with the Social Security Administration is but one aspect of a lifetime devoted to public service, which began with Harry's courageous service as a member of the United States Army during the Vietnam War.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring Harry Hancock's career of service to the attention of

my colleagues here today. I join with the residents of the entire 6th Congressional District of Alabama in congratulating Harry Hancock as he retires from federal service. I wish Harry and his wife Rene nothing but happiness in the days ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for legislative business on Friday, November 4, 2005 and Monday, November 7, 2005 due to a family medical emergency. As a result, I missed rollcall votes 569 through 572. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on the following rollcall votes:

569, Adoption of Conference Report H.R. 3057; 570, H. Con. Res. 260, Recognizing the 40th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's Declaration on the Relation of the Church to Non-Christian Religions; 571, H.R. 1973, the Water for the Poor Act of 2005; 572, H. Res. 444, the Gynecological Resolution for Advancement of Ovarian Cancer Education.

THE TRUTH ABOUT THE WAR IN IRAQ

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 3, 2005

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, our men and women in the military continue to make our nation very proud. We are forever grateful for their sacrifice as they protect our precious freedoms and encourage the rise of democracy in the heart of the Middle East. We honor their dedication and admire their resolve under such difficult circumstances.

Because of the valor of our troops, there is cause for great optimism in Iraq. On October 15th, nearly 10 million Iraqis traded bullets for ballots and voted on their draft constitution. The constitution was approved by an overwhelming 79 percent. This is a remarkable feat and an important milestone on Iraq's path toward democracy. The next step is a December 15th vote for the first government under the new constitution.

After the constitutional vote, the Washington Post quoted a 53-year-old Iraqi shoe salesman who said: "[Before], no one showed us the draft of a constitution. None of them. This is the first time. Since the days of the monarchy until now, this is the first government willing to put the constitution before its people."

Another Iraqi, who planned to mark his ballot with his own blood, said this about voting for the constitution: "It will bring all that is good for the people, such as stability, democracy and peace. With such a charter, we will show the world that we are a civilized nation, not a bunch of . . . bloodthirsty extremists."

The election day itself was a resounding success. Violence was minimal and did not affect voting at the more than 6,000 polling places. Nearly 200,000 Iraqi security forces